

Willard Richards [Nauvoo] to Jennetta Richards [Richmond, Massachusetts]  
Letter 1

My Dearest Jennetta, I am sorry you did not understand the interpretation of your dream. the statement was you would be tempted, not that you would give way & wrong me or break your vow. No! and instead of my believing you guilty of any criminal act, I never had a jealous thought of you God knows. No. Never! & trust I never shall. my heart reposes full confidence in her I love as my life. —& ever has—I have never had a doubt. of her integrity. the interpretation was from God, as a warning to beware of Temptation therefore set your heart at rest about my fears of you.—I am sorry you should ever have had any feelings you have experienced about it. banish them.—there is no occasion. I believe you would rather die than do wrong in such a matter. but the devil is cunning. & all are liable to Temptation. Jesus not excepted and — The dream you mention in your last, is not good, neither is it from a good source. so you need not give yourself any uneasiness about. —My Sisters are not your enemies & I perceive by your letter you do not count them such. — I am glad to see your feelings are kind towards them. I am aware that you & they have not understood each others feelings, & movements, & wishes. I do — not believe there is any enmity between you. — You shall have your place, it is right. — you are right in wishing it. I can explain many things to you when I see you. — they have meant many things for good which have appeared strange & unreasonable. all things may yet [p. [1]]

be put to rights you spend an Eternity of bliss together.. You shall yet spend many good days on the Earth. — & rejoice together. not be bound together by force, but by love, — I would not wound one tender feelings of your soul on any account. I would be a Son of peace & consolation to your heaving bosom. I never had the remotest thought you ever wished or designed to exert an influence again[s]t me. & if I ever used the words it was in reference to p[r]inciple.— I desire I may now so write as to be understood & calm every feeling of your soul. & I never had any other design. Be at rest about all things till I see you & I will explain what I have not already. all is right. be comforted my Love. be comforted & make you[r]-self as happy as possible. I am glad you feel ready to receive God word from his servants or his spirit. You must let your heart swell out large for great things await this generation. Meditate on these glorious principles I have written you from time to time. — The priesthood is for the Sisters as well as for the brethren. — the blessings which await you are without bou[n]ds. if you continue faithful as I believe you will.— always remember God never instituted an order of things which would not tend to the happiness of his children. —— if the sisters have erred do not cast them off. we must be patient with each other as we desire our father to be with us. & I believe you will be. — God bless my Jennetta comfort her heart. give her wisdom & strength & patience & endurence to the end amen. Willard R

MARSH  
MASTER  
PRINTING  
CO.  
ACID FREE

My dearest Jeannette, I am sorry you did not understand the interpretation of your dream, the statement was you would be tempted, not that you would give way & wrong me, or break your vow, No!, and instead of my telling you ~~ignorance~~ of any criminal act, I never had a jealous thought of you God knows, No. Never, & trust I never shall, my heart repents full confession in this I love or my life, — & over does — I have never had a doubt of her integrity, the interpretation was from God, as a warning to beware of temptation therefore set your heart at rest about my fears of you, — I am sorry you should ever have had any feelings you have expressed about it, besides them, — there is no accusation, I believe you would rather die than do wrong in such a matter, but the devil is cunning, & all are liable to temptation, Jesus not excepted even — The dream you mention in your last, is not good, neither is it from a good source, so you need not give yourself any uneasiness about, — My sisters are not your enemies & I perceive by your letter you do not count them such, — I am glad to see your feelings are kind toward them, I am aware, that you & they have not understood each others feelings, & moments, & wishes, I do not believe there is any enmity between you, — You shall have your place, it is right, — you are right in wishing it, I can explain many things to you when I see you, — they have meant many things for good which you offend through & uncomforable, all things may yet

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spend many good days on the Earth - to rejoice together, not be bound to  
grieve by force, but by love. - I would not wound one tender feeling of  
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peering bosom. I never had the remotest thought you ever wished or designed  
to exert an influence against me, & if I ever used the words it was in  
reference to principle. - I desire I may now so write as to be understood to  
calm every feeling of your soul, & I never had any other design. But at  
rest about all things till I see you & I will explain what I have not  
already. all is right, be comforted. My love, be comforted & make you-  
self as happy as possible. I am glad you feel ready to receive God's word from  
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I have written you from time to time. - The priesthood is for other  
Sisters as well as for the better. The blessing which awaits you all  
without bounds, if you continue faithful as I believe you will. -  
always remember God, ne'er instate any order of things which would  
not tend to the happiness of his children. - If the Sisters love err'd do  
not cast them off. we must be patient with each other or we derive  
our father to be cutters. - I believe you will be. - God bless my penetta  
comfort her heart, give her wisdom & truth & patience, & endurance to the end amen. William M.

Willard Richards [Nauvoo] to Jennetta Richards [Richmond, Massachusetts]  
26 Feb. 1842

My Dearest Jennetta I know it pleases you to see a little scrap. & I love  
to please you and it would rejoice my soul to see you, & converse with you  
and I have no doubt it would yours also. & this privilege we shall yet enjoy &  
see and know that all things have been well.— and right before God in our separation  
Let us be patient and wait on the Lord — Jennetta, your faith has sometimes been  
weak as you have said. but I can truly say this work is of God, there is no  
mistake.. — acknowledge the hand of God in all things & you shall see the salvation  
of God & stand in his presence. there is more virtue in the priesthood than  
Even the Saints are aware of.— It is the power of God on earth as as sure  
as God lives if you will cling to me, and seek my happiness to the end  
I will bring you into the kingdom & your friends & mine. and what will  
you not be willing to suffer to accomplish this. all trials are nothing.  
There are many things recorded of the old patriarchs and prophets which  
have seemed bad to us. which if we knew the reasons thereof and the  
order of God would appear right. though they did some wrong things, no  
doubt. God has raised up Joseph to do a certain work, not so particularly  
to make him a perfect example, but do a certain work., & he never  
pretends to be a perfect man, but tells every body he is imperfect & they  
need not copy after him, & yet I never saw his equal, to do every thing right  
without pretensions. Joseph says he has been searching all his life time to  
find a man after his own heart, in all things, that he could trust with  
his business, & he has found him. who do you think it is? Dr Richards. will  
not this compensate for the loss of his company a little while my love? — [p. [1]]  
God bless my Jennetta & her boys Yea they shall be blessed, though one she sees not  
yet multitudes shall rejoice in their existence — Since I left Richmond I  
have thought much of Sister Rhoda. She has been a mother to me, and we  
always lay as it were, in each others bosoms. when I was there she appeared more  
distant, & for this reason I suppose from circumstances which had occurred in the  
family. she felt she could not make quite so free with me as she had done because  
you were there — <&> yet may this I do not wonder at, but. there is no occasion  
for any thing of the kind. for I know you would have no feelings about  
a sisters love though some would. — and I can assure you you can place  
the utmost confidence in her & Nancy also. they will never betray their  
friends. And I have no doubt — they will study your happiness & you theirs.  
I love my sisters as well as ever & my Jennetta better too, and if I had  
a thousand such dear friends I could love them all. Why because my heart  
is true, expansive as Eternity. — could I see you I could explain ma[n]y things  
I did not know when I left you. ==the grand secret of the Gospel is this. for us  
to live by every word of the lord. to live by revelation, present Revelation, do what  
God requires of us, & not what he required of somebody else. If you will do right  
in all things God will shew you ma[n]y things by his spirit. — Dreams visions &c.  
this I had written for my former letter.— but left it out for  
another scrap <about Dreams> not thinking I could send both. & I send it now  
because I have not time to write more. — Feb. 26.—



My Dearest Jemmetta I know it pleases you to see a little scrap, & I long  
to please you and it would rejoice my soul to see you, & converse with you  
and I have no doubt it would yours also, & this privilege we shall yet enjoy &  
see and know that all things have been well, and right before God in our separation  
Let us be patient and wait on the Lord - Jemmetta your faith has sometimes been  
weak as you have said, but I can truly say this, weakness of God, there is no  
mistake, acknowledge the hand of God in all things. & you shall see the salvation  
of God & strength in his presence. There is more virtue in the priesthood than  
even the saints are aware of. It is the power of God on earth, as as sure  
as God lives of you will cling to me, and seek my happiness to the end  
I will bring you into the kingdom & your body & mind, and what will  
you not be willing to suffer to accomplish this, all trials are nothing.  
There are many things recorded of the old patriarchs and prophets which  
have seemed bad to us, whilst if we knew the reasons surely and the  
order of God would appear right, though they did some wrong things no  
doubt. God has raised up Joseph to do a certain work, not so particularly  
to make him a perfect example, but do a certain work, & he never  
pretends to be a perfect man, but tells every body he is imperfect & they  
need not copy after him, & yet I never saw his equal, to do every thing right  
without pretensions. Joseph says he has been searching all his life time to  
find a man after his own heart, in all things, that he could trust into  
his keeping, & he has found none who do you think it is? Dr Richards, will  
not this compensate for the loss of his commanding a letter while my love?



Saturday, P.M.

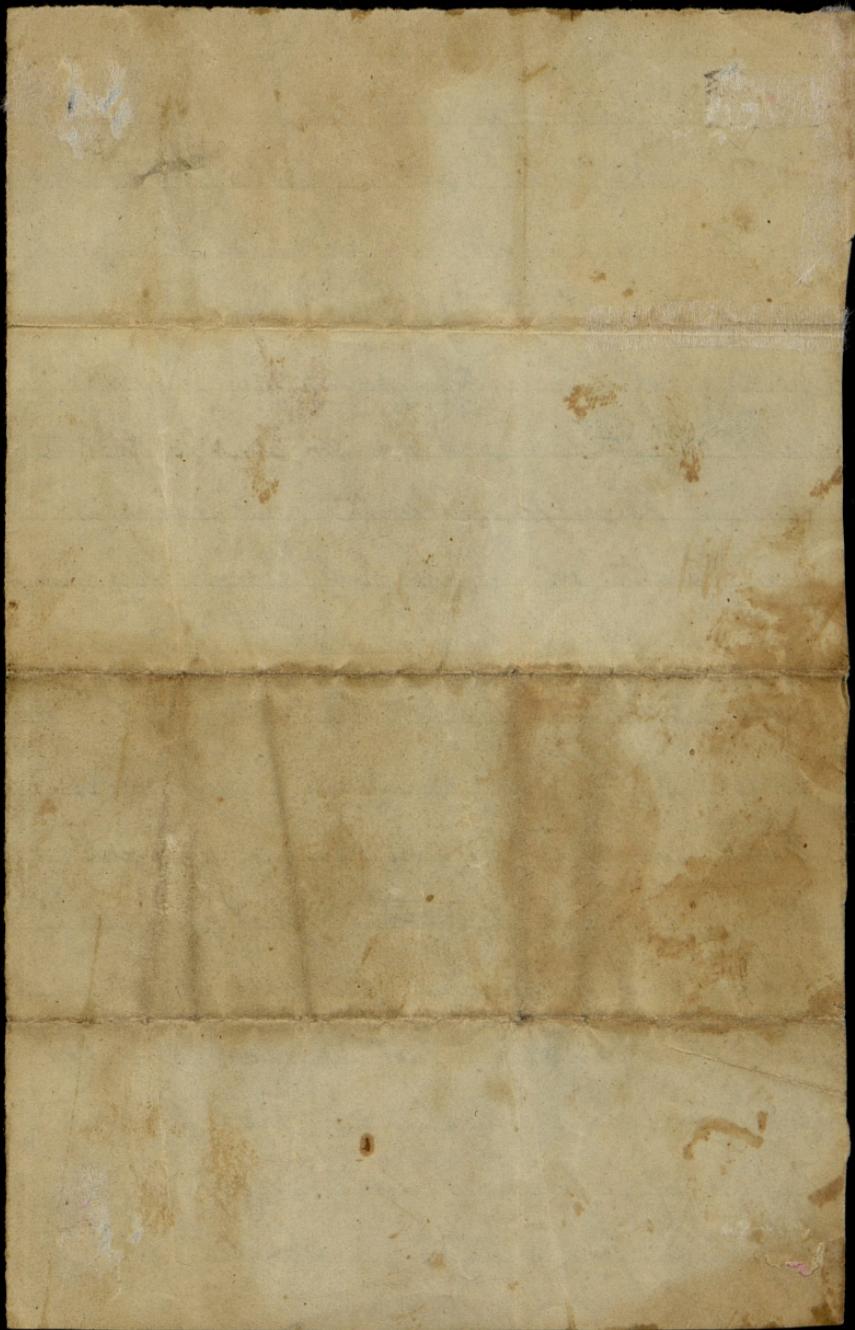
To

My ever dear Aunt, I am  
requested by Mother & Aunt R.  
to write one line, as Samuel says he  
will call and take it this eve and forward  
it to you, we received news last evening  
that the workmen are to commence one  
week sooner than we first heard of, con-  
sequently we shall have them here as soon as  
then we expected when you were here &  
when they come we shall be full. we  
have got the house partly cleaned, & we should  
all be happy to accomodate you and little John  
here while Aunt S is clearing hers, we feel for

Dear Sister and desire to all we can for your  
comfort yes indeed be assured you are never forgotten  
by your Friends in this place. But it would be impos-  
sible to receive you here just at the present time  
for our beds are full. But we will take little &  
in with us and do the best we can for him  
while I am painting; perhaps you will

think you cannot spare him but will you  
just try to lay aside those feelings for a  
few days and consider your health if you  
should keep your chamber in retirement a  
few days you might come out recruited &  
rested some now just think of it Dear Dad  
and let your judgment command your feelings  
this time, but just as you think best  
we will do the best in our power for him.  
Samuel is now waiting Much love from a  
mother

Aunt J. The ointment we send must be  
put on the burn with a feather, as cold as  
it can be, perhaps you will have to warm  
it a little. Aunt B. would come if she  
could but Levi and myself are going to  
Pittsfield today <sup>with the team</sup> ~~and~~ she on errands that  
cannot be dispensed with and she was  
going with us if he had come a few minutes  
later we shoule have been gone but we  
were stiped to make this ointment  
which we think would do as well as any  
thing we could do for him if we were  
there; it must be ~~wiped~~ put on with a  
feather and no cloths put over it when  
it has dried in put on some more  
but be careful and ~~not~~ not let him  
get any in his mouth. keep it on  
till the fire is out. Amelia.



oooooooooooooooooooo Tax Receipt for Real Estate. oooooooooooooooo

STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
Hancock COUNTY.

ss.

Collector's Office, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>

1844

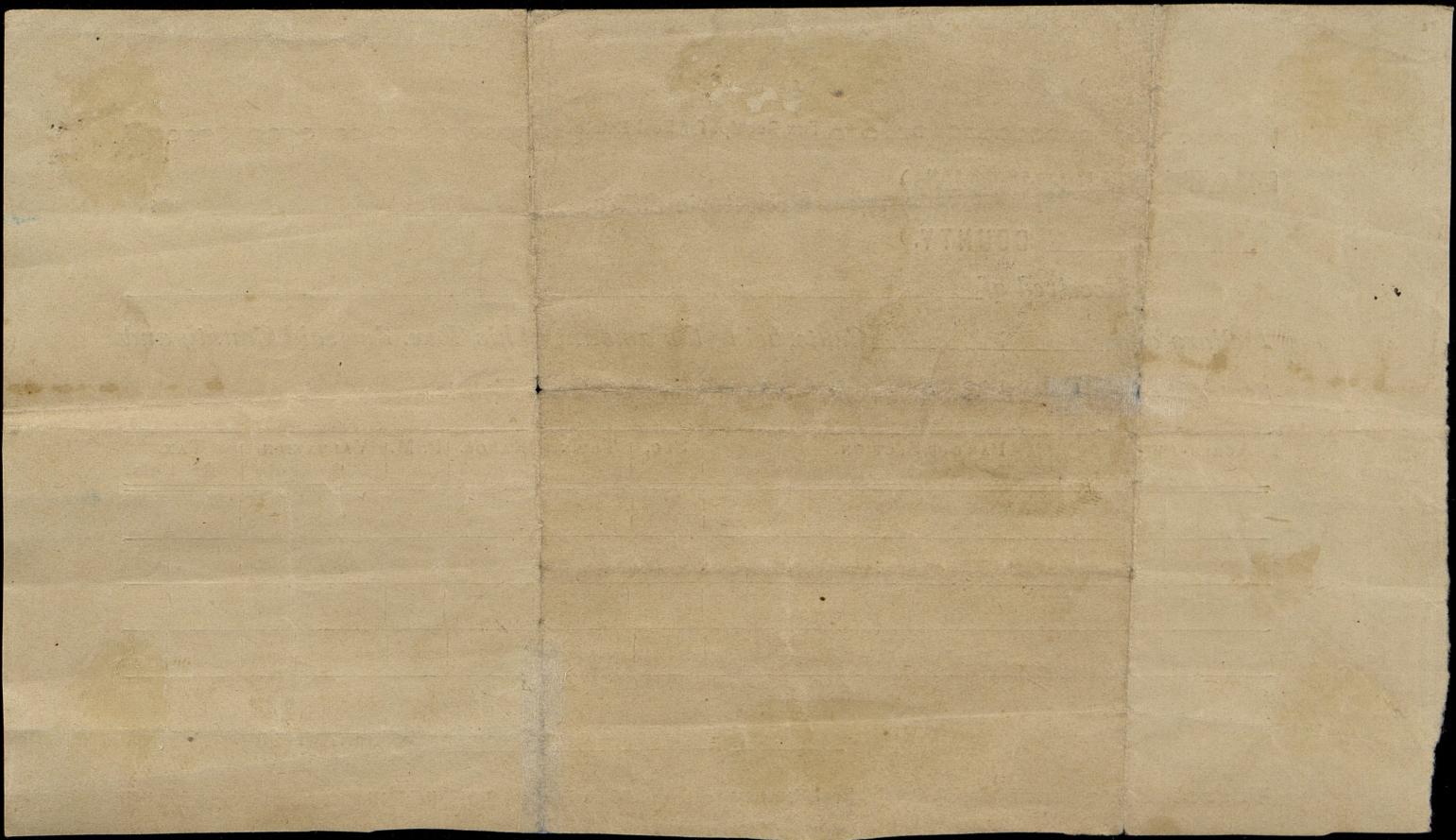
Received of Willard Richards

Dollars and 51 Cents, being the amount of his Tax, due said County and  
State, for the year 1844, on the following described Real Estate. & Personal Property

ACRES.	PART OF SECTION.	SEC.	TOWN. Sect.	RANGE. Block	P. M.	VALUATION. \$   cts.	TAX. \$   cts.
Nauvoo	Bimbels Town Addition	4	21			10,-	
	Nauvoo	2	103			50,-	
Macedonia		2	17			10,-	
	Personal Property					15,-	51-
						81	

M R Dunning  
By J M Farns Jr  
Collector

oooooooooooo Ensley T. Goudy, Real Estate Agent, and Blank Printer, Springfield, Ill. oooooooo



CITY OF NAUVOO,

February 18<sup>th</sup>  
A. D. 1845.

Received of ~~Willard Richards~~ the sum of Two dollars and 5 cents—  
being the amount of tax due the said City for the year A. D. 1844 in the 4 ward.

	value.	amt.
Personal property	<u>10</u>	
Description of land and town lot	<u>400</u> <u>410</u>	<u>2.05</u>

John C. Young Jr.

Collector.

